

2014-15 Perkins IV Reserve Grant Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: Perkins IV Secondary Reserve Grants are authorized under the Carl Perkins IV Act of 2006, Section 112(a) (1), (c), which specifies that states may reserve not more than 10 percent (or 8.5% of the total allotment) for distribution to:

- 1) Local programs in rural areas
- 2) Areas with high numbers or percentages of CTE students, or
- 3) Areas negatively impacted by changes in within state Perkins formulas (funding allocations attached from 2011-13)

Each state utilizing the reserve fund shall use the grant to serve at least two of the categories of recipients listed above. These funds may be distributed to local eligible recipients in an alternative manner determined by the state, for uses described in Section 135 (Local Uses of Funds.)

The purpose of the grant is to prepare CTE students for high-skill, high-wage, or high-demand occupations and emerging opportunities and support linkages between secondary and postsecondary career and technical education programs. The grant is intended to support new and innovative CTE opportunities at the local level, not to expand or improve existing programs. Evidence of expansion of existing programs will result in a disqualification or a significant deduction of points.

Applicants should approach their grant proposals based on one of two models:

1. **Continuation** of a current 2013-14 Perkins IV Reserve Grant
2. A **new** Perkins IV Reserve Grant (includes current grantees who wish to submit an application for a separate, new initiative)

Grants will be awarded to support one or more of the following **five focus areas**:

- A. The development of Industry Partnerships that enhance student success through **work-based learning**.
- B. The development and implementation of innovative work-based learning approaches to serve students with **Special Needs or Disabilities**.
- C. The development of Industry Partnerships that enhance student success through **teacher externships**.
- D. Based on the *Core Priorities* of the Pathways Tennessee (*Pathways to Prosperity*) Initiative, the development and/or implementation of 7th-14th/16th **Academic/Career Learning Pathways** that are interlinked to local, regional and state economic and labor market needs and trends. (LEAs in existing Pathways regions, or planned 2014 expansion regions, are encouraged strongly to work with their regional intermediary organization to develop a regional proposal. Contact Nick.Hansen@tn.gov for additional information on Pathways Tennessee, existing Pathways regions, and expansion regions.)

- E. Promotion of a **Rural Regional Consortium** to maximize academic resources, increase efficiencies, offer distance learning and shared approaches to programs that enhance student success. (This can be selected in concert with D.)

Background: Since the passing of the Carl Perkins IV Act of 2006, the State of Tennessee, Department of Education has exercised the option to offer the Perkins IV Secondary Reserve Grants. For Fiscal Year 2013-14 the design of the grants has been changed to reflect the new strategic direction of the division of CTE and TN Department of Education (TDOE). In addition, to make resources available to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) that demonstrate a commitment to these goals and priorities, no LEA will be prevented from submitting an application.

Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary Grants.

Estimated Amount of Available Funds: \$1,700,000

Estimated Number of Awards: 8-10

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: A total of twelve months from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015, with all funds to be obligated by June 30, 2015 and expended by September 30, 2015.

Eligibility Information

Eligible Applicants: Local Education Agencies (LEAs), as defined in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, which demonstrate an ability to deliver one or more of the five focus areas of this grant and are otherwise eligible under the Carl Perkins IV Act of 2006.

Cost Sharing or Matching: It is expected that the budget proposal reflect a local contribution to the project and additional points will be awarded based on the amount of effort towards matching. There is no minimum percentage requirement. Indirect charges are not allowed but there is a 5% allowance for Administration on the Reserve Grant.

Funds to be released: All grant funding will be by reimbursement based on invoices submitted by the Fiscal Agent. One hundred percent (100%) of the funding is available for reimbursement at the beginning of the grant period.

Application and Submission Information

Submission: Applications must be submitted electronically via the ePlan system at eplan.tn.gov. The deadline for submission is 11:59 p.m., Friday, May 1, 2014. Applicants will complete and submit their grant proposal applications into ePlan, including their proposed budgets. Applicants, who are selected, will be required to complete an Assurances and Signatures form upon acceptance of the grant.

Questions: Questions may be directed to Susan K. Cowden at Susan.K.Cowden@tn.gov or by phone at (615) 532-2846.

Notification of Intent to Apply: 2014-15 Perkins IV Secondary Reserve Grant

Date:

Local Education Agency(ies) (LEA):

Model for the Grant Application (circle one:)

Applicants should approach their grant proposals based on one of two models:

1. **Continuation** of a current 2013-14 Perkins IV Reserve Grant
2. A **new** Perkins IV Reserve Grant (includes current grantees who wish to submit an application for a separate, new initiative)

Area of Focus for the Grant Application (circle one:)

- 1) The development of Industry Partnerships that enhance student success through **work-based learning**.
- 2) The development of Industry Partnerships that enhance student success through **teacher externships**.
- 3) Based on the Pathways Tennessee (Pathways to Prosperity) Initiative, the development and implementation of **Academic Pathways** that establish 7th-14th/16th academic pathways, which are interlinked to local, regional and state economic and labor market needs and trends.
- 4) The development and implementation of innovative work-based learning approaches to serve students with **Special Needs or Disabilities**.
- 5) Promotion of a **Rural Regional Consortium** to maximize academic resources, increase efficiencies, offer distance learning and shared approaches to programs that enhance student success.

Describe the rationale for selecting this Area of Focus and the characteristics of your district or consortium that position you for a successful implementation.

1. What is the proposed project title, model (continuation or new), and focus area(s)?
Provide an executive summary of your proposed project/initiative, and your rationale for applying for a Perkins Reserve Grant including your reasons for selecting the identified focus area(s)? If this is a continuation grant proposal, briefly state your reasons for requesting an additional year of funding.
2. State your project/initiative goal(s) and aligned objectives. State how the identified objectives support local and/or regional priorities. Please include specific anticipated outcomes for each identified objective.
3. Based on your proposed project/initiative, what efforts has your district already taken to ensure success during the grant period?
4. What commitments (funding or otherwise) are anticipated to sustain the project/initiative once the Perkins IV Reserve Grant funding expires?
5. Define how your district or consortium supports the requirement that two or more of the following are met:
 - A. Local programs in rural areas
 - B. Areas with high numbers or percentages of CTE students, or
 - C. Areas negatively impacted by changes from state Perkins formulas
6. Explain how the awarding of a Perkins Reserve Grant will complement your districts regular Perkins formula funded programs?
7.
 - a. Identify what foundational elements, including strategic partnerships already in place, will provide for an advantage in implementing a new initiative or in continuing a current Reserve Grant.
 - b. Describe the members of your planning and/or implementation team, including primary and secondary stakeholders and business and industry leaders and the role that they will play, or have been playing, in the implementation of your proposed project/initiative. Describe your key partners and demonstrate the level of commitment that you have from each. Clearly state what deliverables are expected from each key partner.
8. Please identify your local and/or regional key economic and labor assets and opportunities. (Quotes and references to published reports or asset maps are allowable.) Include TN Department of Labor and Workforce Development statistics that support how the project/initiative will prepare students for immediate employment upon graduation, or after the completion of a postsecondary program of study, in a high-skill, high-wage, or high-demand occupation.
9. List the activities (in detail) that you will implement to achieve your goal(s) and objectives and the time frame for each identified activity, including planning, roll out, and implementation (include critical benchmarks leading up to full implementation). For continuation proposals, identify all incomplete items or activities from your first year of implementation and why additional funding is needed to carryout future activities. (Note: Continuation proposals do not need to reflect the same activities identified for current awards. Rather, proposals should reflect activities that lead to the continued successful progression and maturation of the current project/initiative.)

- 10.** Clearly state how education (secondary and postsecondary) and industry are (or will be) interlinked and engaged in your project/initiative.
- 11.** How will this grant proposal complement your identified 2014-15 CTE courses and Programs of Study?
- 12.** How many students will be impacted by this project/initiative? How will student success be reflected through this project/initiative?
- 13.** Clearly state what quantitative evaluative measures will be employed to show project success at the conclusion of the grant period, as well as progress-to-goal at the midpoint of the grant period. Applicants, who are applying for a continuation grant, must provide current progress-to-goal measures that show ongoing project/initiative success.

**TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
Proposed Perkins IV Reserve Grant Budget
2014-15**

EXPENDITURE/CATEGORY (Provide as much detail as possible)	FY 2014-15	Total
	Reserve Funds	Local Funds
Salaries and/or Stipends		
a. Benefits		
b. Taxes		
Subtotal		
Professional Fee (consultant, training, etc.)		
Subtotal		
Supplies		
Subtotal		
Postage/Shipping		
Subtotal		
Equipment/Capital		
Subtotal		
Printing/Publications		
Subtotal		
Travel/Conference		
Subtotal		
Other Non-Personnel/Miscellaneous		
Subtotal		
Grand Total		

*Attach another page if necessary.

*The proposed budget should include all project costs. Administrative costs not to exceed 5%.

**TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
DIVISION OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

PERKINS IV RESERVE GRANT APPLICATION ASSURANCES AND SIGNATURES

2014-15 This Assurances and Signatures form is to be completed by the grant proposing LEA(s). (If this is a Consortium or Pathways grant proposal application, all participating LEAs will need to sign.) For other key project partners, please submit letters from lead project personnel, on their letterhead, indicating their commitment to the project. The grant applicant hereby assures:

1. All programs, services, and activities covered by this Grant Application will be operated in accordance with state and federal laws, regulations, as well as approved policies and rules as established by the Tennessee State Board of Education and the Tennessee Department of Education.
2. Funding will be allocated in accordance with state and federal laws, regulations, and approved rules as established by the Tennessee Department of Education and is targeted toward preparing students for high-skill, high wage, or high-demand occupations and/or secondary to postsecondary transition activities.
3. Expenditures will be in compliance with the standard accounting procedures and guidelines established by the Tennessee Department of Education and federal legislation.
4. Grant funds will not be expended in any manner other than as outlined in the budgeted section of the approved grant application.
5. Federal Perkins funds will supplement, and will not supplant, non-federal funds expended to carry out the activities of the grant.
6. Permission is granted to use this grant proposal and its results for informational purposes in the development and sharing of successful practices for other education agencies.
7. All identified team members will be allowed time to meet and plan the project/initiative and will be given release time to attend required planning and implementation meetings.

(ALL SIGNATURES REQUIRED)

Signature, Director of Schools

Date

Signature, Career and Technical Education Director

Date

Signature, Local CTE Advisory Council Representative

Date

For a Consortium Application, please add additional signature lines for each participating LEA.